(*a*) whether it is a fact that representations have been made in the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly as regards the necessity for improving the Vaikam-Vechur road and connecting it with the Kottayam-Kumarakam road;

(*b*) whether any estimate has been made of the expenditure necessary for this purpose, and, if so, what the estimate is;

(*c*) whether the Government have received any petitions recently from the inhabitants of Vechur about this road; and

(*d*) whether they are prepared to take any action in the matter?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No regular estimate has been prepared. The complete improvements with bridges and culverts are roughly estimated to cost Rs. 25,000.

(*c*) Yes. They have received a petition and it has been referred to the Chief Engineer.

(*d*) The matter can be considered only after the receipt of the Chief Engineer's reply.

Kaniantodu in Vaikam Taluk.

20. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam* cum *Ettumanur*): Will the Government be pleased to say:

(*a*) whether they have received any representations from the people of the Vaikam taluk or their representatives about the opening of a canal at Vaikam known as the Kaniantodu for purposes of cultivation;

(*b*) whether Government have taken any action in this matter; and

(*c*) whether Government will be pleased to order the early execution of the work?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) An estimate for the work is under preparation.

(*c*) Yes.

Undergraduate Teachers in Vernacular Schools.

21. MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Vaikam* cum *Ettumanur*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether the undergraduate teachers teaching English in the vernacular middle schools are given the same scale of pay and the same opportunities for being sent up for training as teachers with the same qualification in English schools and, if not, why?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The minimum qualifications for undergraduate teachers of English in English and vernacular schools are the same; but, in practice, those selected for English schools have better certificates than those appointed to vernacular schools and lower pay is accordingly attached to the latter

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